

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

University Relations News Archive

External Relations

4-18-2013

Student Documents History of Local Non-Profit

University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news

Recommended Citation

University Relations, "Student Documents History of Local Non-Profit" (2013). *University Relations News Archive*. Paper 270.
http://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news/270

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the External Relations at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Relations News Archive by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact skulann@morris.umn.edu.

Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications
Phone: 320-589-6414, weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: 320-589-6068, jrray@morris.umn.edu

Student Documents History of Local Non-Profit

Summary: Abbie Thebault-Spieker '16, Bemidji, is scanning and organizing documentation from the local Barnes-Aastad Association.

(April 18, 2013)-Abbie Thebault-Spieker '16, Bemidji, is working with the University of Minnesota, Morris's Center for Small Towns (CST) to catalog historical documents for the Barnes-Aastad Soil and Water Conservation Research Association. The Barnes-Aastad Association is a stakeholder group for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service and the North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory in Morris. There has been no formal organization and archiving of the lab's early records, so board members hired a student through CST to help catalog and present on the history.

Thebault-Spieker is responsible for scanning a large volume of photos and historical documents into a digital archive. She has been organizing items like the organization's earliest meeting minutes so that specific information will be easier to access. Thebault-Spieker has also been charged with analyzing the information she is documenting. This spring she will give a presentation to the Barnes-Aastad Association about its history, which stretches back to its original conception and creation in 1959.

When asked what about the project she liked best, Thebault-Spieker replied, "I like the fact that you can find the history of a small town, and it's not just an overview...it's more in depth, and you really get to know the people."

The Barnes-Aastad Soil and Water Conservation Research Association is a non-profit organization of farm managers and agribusiness supporting the research mission of the USDA-Agricultural Research Service and the North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory in Morris. Association membership consists of a cross-section of the agricultural community in west central Minnesota. It provides input to the research program, cooperates with on-farm experiments, and supports various outreach activities.

The University of Minnesota, Morris Center for Small Towns (CST) is a community outreach program that serves as a point-of-entry to the resources of the University of Minnesota. Small towns, local units of government, k-12 schools, nonprofit organizations, and other University units are able to utilize the Center's resources as they work on rural issues or make contributions to rural society. Their mission is to focus the University's attention and marshal its resources toward assisting Minnesota's small towns with locally identified issues by creating applied learning opportunities for faculty and students.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.